Spring 2009





Newsletter of the Hampshire & Isle of Wight Wildlife Trust's Flora Group

Dear Flora Group Member

The Flora Group committee members hope that you had an enjoyable time botanising last year and we look forward to seeing you at some of the events in 2009.

This year our AGM will be held at Blashford Lakes on Sunday 7 June 2009. If you would like to join the Committee, please let Catherine Chatters know prior to the AGM. Catherine's address and telephone number are given at the end of the newsletter. As usual, we are always keen to receive your suggestions for events and activities. Please raise your suggestions at the AGM or pass your ideas to any of the Committee members.

We are always keen for more people to provide contributions to Flora News on any relevant botanical topics. If you have enjoyed any of the Flora Group events and would like to write a report on it for Flora News, we would be very pleased to receive it. Please send your articles, notes or reports to Catherine.

We apologise for the late delivery of the Autumn 2008 edition of Flora News. We had planned to deliver it to Flora Group members by early September 2008, well in time for everyone to receive details of all the Autumn events. Unfortunately, due to problems beyond our control, the printing was delayed so some people did not know about Neil Sanderson's lichen identification event until too late. However Neil has kindly offered to repeat the event this autumn/ winter so if you missed the training in October 2008, there will be another chance to learn about lichens in the New Forest. Details will be provided in the Autumn 2009 edition of Flora News.

Forthcoming Events

There is normally no need to book a place on Flora Group events beforehand, unless the text specifically requests it. A contact 'phone number is only given in case you wish to know more about the event. The leader can be expected to turn up whatever the weather (although it may then be mutually agreed to cancel the event)!

Saturday 4 April 2009, 10am – 4.30pm Improvers' Workshop Swanwick Lakes Centre Leaders: Martin Rand and Tony Mundell

This workshop is for the 95% of us who love wild plants and have used a popular flower guide, but are daunted by the prospect of 'big floras' and technical jargon. Using fresh specimens, instruments and a wide range of literature, it will demonstrate terminology, tools and techniques and help you to go farther on your own.

Some of the topics to be covered:

- 36 ways to say "hairy": a look at some of the baffling terms and a guide to learning more.
- Bits you never even knew were there: some finer details of plants, and hints on buying and using hand lenses and dissecting microscopes.
- Which way to turn: getting to grips with the bane of everyone's life: dichotomous and multiaccess keys.
- Worth a thousand words? What different kinds of picture can tell you; examples of the good,

the bad and the ugly.

...but some are more equal than others: a comparison of the floras and handbooks available.

Numbers will be limited. If you have not already registered an interest, please book with Martin Rand, 'phone 07531 461442 (please note change of number!), or email vc11recorder@hantsplants.org.uk. He will then provide further details of arrangements for the day.

Sunday 3 May 2009, 10.30am - 1pm Genista anglica (Petty Whin) survey at Bartley Heath HWT Reserve Leader: Dr Peter Vaughan

Meet at the reserve car park at SU 726 534. The ground may be very wet in places so please wear appropriate footwear. *Genista anglica* is a Red Data book species that has undergone considerable decline nationally. It is known to grow at Bartley Heath. For most of the year it is difficult to find, being a somewhat spindly dwarf shrub, but in early May it stands out with its bright yellow flowers. We will systematically search the open areas of the site to assess the numbers and distribution of plants. We will also keep a look-out for the rare *Viola lactea* (Pale Dog-violet) and can expect to see a wide range of other humid heathland plants including *Pedicularis sylvatica* (Lousewort) and some of the site's rich invertebrate fauna. Booking is not essential but if you can contact the leader in advance that would be much appreciated, to give an idea of expected numbers.

Contact Peter Vaughan 01256 764225 peter@ vaughan46.freeserve.co.uk.

Saturday 30 May 2009, 10am Hampshire Rare Plant Register Survey, Martin Down Leader: Martin Rand

This will definitely be the last survey meeting for this species in Hampshire for a while! We shall map the distribution of Dwarf Sedge *Carex humilis* on the north-western end of Martin Down, at a 100-metre scale. Rather than endure the biting winds of March and April we shall see what the weather can throw at us in late May, when there will be many more botanical distractions. We shall split into small teams, and I will aim to get the formal recording part of the day finished by 3pm, so that we can regroup, compare notes and have a chance to admire some of the other delights of the reserve on other people's patches.

Meet at the car park just off the A354 Salisbury – Blandford road, SU036200. Note that this is not the car park we used for the 2008 meetings. No booking needed, in fact the more the merrier, but please bring any of the following you possess: GPS, mobile telephone, compass, clipboard. Routes can be graded according to stamina and inclination but on average will be a bit less demanding than last year – as long as enough people turn up! Bring picnic lunch, suitable footwear and appropriate clothing for the day, given that this can be an exposed site. Further details from Martin Rand, 'phone 07531 461442 (note change of number) or email vc11recorder@hantsplants.org.uk.

Sunday 7 June 2009, 10.30 am Flora Group AGM and visit to Blashford Lakes to study spring ephemerals Leaders: Martin Rand and John Norton

This year our Annual General Meeting will be held during our visit to Blashford Lakes on the Dorset-Hampshire border. Blashford Lakes nature reserve comprises a complex of old mineral workings and other habitats immediately north of Ringwood.



Crunchy Lichen heath. Blashford 2008. Photo by Clive Chatters

The focus of this Flora Group visit is the parched grassland habitats between the education centre and the pump houses. These support exceptionally rich 'crispy' lichen heaths with a diverse flora including storksbills, clovers

and succulents such as the mossy stonecrop. Most plants are rather small, so you may like to bring something to kneel or sit on together with a hand lens. If



you prefer larger plants there are taller grasslands and even a number of giant veteran oaks.

The AGM will be held near the education centre at lunchtime. There are picnic benches here as well as toilets and somewhere to make tea.

The Blashford Lakes complex is huge covering over 2 km square. For those wanting to explore further there are younger areas of acid grassland north of the road under colonisation by species such as the attractive Annual Beard Grass *Polypogon monspeliensis*. For the general naturalist this is one of the sites in Hampshire that is getting a reputation for brilliant birding. The open water, reed beds and open grasslands located between the New Forest heaths and the floodplain of the Avon Valley support exceptional breeding and wintering birds.

Meet at SU155083 South of Ellingham Drove at 10.30. Walk down the access track to the education centre and gather on the grassland. Plentiful parking can be found just north of Ellingham Drove at SU152084. The easiest access is from the A338 following the brown tourist signs to the waterskiing club. This area is poorly served by public transport.

You can look on the Trust website for more about Blashford Lakes and its facilities www.hwt.org.uk. Contact: Martin Rand 'phone 07531 461442 (note change of number) or email vc11recorder@hantsplants.org.uk.

Saturday 13 June 2009, 10.30am – 4pm Visit to Ancell's Farm HWT Reserve Leader: Tony Mundell

Meet 10.30 am in the shop parade car park at SU821557. Bring your packed lunch. Welly boots are strongly advised. The area has a good range of interesting plants, such as *Anagallis tenella* (Bog Pimpernel), *Genista anglica* (Petty Whin), *Genista tinctoria* (Dyer's Greenweed), *Carex echinata* (Star Sedge), *Carex curta* = *canescens* (White Sedge), *Osmunda regalis* (Royal Fern) and a dwindling population of *Dactylorhiza incarnata pulchella* (Early Marsh Orchid - only 2 spikes in 2008). Later in the day whilst further north we should be able to find *Hottonia palustris* (Water Violet), *Carex vesicaria* (Bladder Sedge) and the very rare *Stellaria palustris* (Marsh Stitchwort). Contact: Tony Mundell 01252 614516

Saturday 27 June 2009, 10 am Bramble identification event starting at Shedfield Church (organised by the Southampton Natural History Society) Leader: David Allen

The Southampton Natural History Society have kindly invited Flora Group members to join them on another event focussing on the identification of brambles. The event will be led by David Allen who is an eminent bramble expert. Meet at 10am at Shedfield Church (grid reference SU561132). It is anticipated that the event will cover Shedfield and Wickham Commons.

Contact: Phil Budd via e-mail on phillipbudd@btinternet. com

Saturday 4 July 2009, 10am-2.30pm Exbury Estate Leader: Martin Rand

This meeting will be to enjoy and record some of the wild grassland and woodland habitats found within Exbury's extensive parkland, by kind permission of the trustees of the estate.

Numbers will be limited. Please book in advance with Martin Rand, phone 07531 461442 (please note change of number!); mail address 21 Pine Road, Chandlers Ford, Eastleigh SO53 1LH (enclosed stamped addressed envelope for reply); or email vc11recorder@ hantsplants.org.uk. He will then provide further details of arrangements for the day.

Saturday 25 July 2009, 10.30 am – 4 pm Visit to Blackwater Meadows Leader: Tony Mundell

Meet at Shepherd Meadows car park, Blackwater SU848607. This is immediately off a small roundabout on the A321, just north of the end of a dual carriageway. We will explore the floodplain meadows on both the Berkshire and the Hampshire side of the River Blackwater. In addition to many commoner plants, we hope to re-find *Carex elongata* (Gingerbread Sedge - but sadly only on the Berkshire side!), *Sanguisorba officinalis* (Greater Burnet), the rare native tree *Populus nigra* subsp. *betulifolia* (Black Poplar) and hopefully the even rarer *Stellaria palustris* (Marsh Stitchwort). Bring your packed lunch if you wish to stay for the afternoon. Contact: Tony Mundell 01252 614516

Saturday 8 August 2009, 10.30 am Arable plant visit to Ratz Bottom Leader: John Moon

A meeting to look principally for arable plants in the fields near Ratz Bottom, north of Longstock. The intention is to start off looking at the field edges where last year there were a good selection of arable plants, including some less common species. If time allows, we can later explore the grassy valley of Ratz Bottom itself. Bring a packed lunch if you wish to stay for the afternoon. Visit courtesy of Fullerton Manor Estate.

Meet at the dip in the Longstock to Goodworth Clatford

road at SU358392 where there is space beside the track that crosses the road to park cars. Contact: John Moon 01264 710123

Wednesday 26 August 2009, 6.30pm Evening event to study aquatic plants at HWT Blashford Lakes Reserve Leader: John Norton

This is an evening meeting to hopefully look at aquatic and marginal plants on the former gravel pits here. Please note the early evening start time. We will aim to finish by 9 pm. Meet at the reserve's main entrance off Ellingham Drove, between Ringwood and Ibsley (turn east off A338; the entrance is on the right after 400m). SU151081. Details are also on the Trust's website: http:// www.hwt.org.uk (follow link to 'Reserves'). A grapnel and Wellingtons would be useful but not essential. The areas visited will depend on the weather and recent rainfall patterns and we may drive to a different access point after meeting up, so if you think you will come please phone or e-mail me a couple of weeks in advance, and let me have your mobile phone number if you have one.

Contact: John Norton 02392 520828 / 07982 257746 john.norton01@ntlworld.com

ADVANCE NOTICE OF FUTURE EVENT

Sunday 13 September 2009 Census of Small Fleabane *Pulicaria vulgaris* Leader: Clive Chatters

Since the early days of Flora Group we have taken a particular interest in the Small Fleabane. This rather unprepossessing, but instantly recognisable, member of the Daisy family was once found across the lowlands of England in commons and road verges. As landscapes and rural economies have changed so the plant has disappeared from most of its historic range.

In September 2009 we will attempt to resurvey all of the Small Fleabane populations of England. This is less daunting than it first sounds as recent records are confined to south west Hampshire. We will also double check the most recent 'local extinction' sites in Surrey, Wiltshire and north Hampshire. This census can be compared to previous studies by the Flora Group to give us a long term view of population trends.

The main job will be to survey the populations of the New Forest. These are concentrated in two areas, in the grazed lanes and commons north of Junction 1 of the M27, together with the grazed lanes between Ringwood and Fordingbridge. There are a few 'outliers' that will also need to be visited around Brockenhurst, Bartley and in the Avon Valley. Small Fleabane may be found growing with other interesting species such as chamomile and pennyroyal mint.

As before, we will meet up near Junction 1 of M27 to look at a population and to run through the survey methodology. Maps, recording sheets and stamped addressed envelopes to return your records will be

provided. When everyone is confident about what is being asked of them we will disperse to cover all sites in south west Hampshire. Booking is not essential but would be very helpful in planning how to structure the day.

Please contact Clive Chatters on 01489 774422. Further details will be provided in the next edition of Flora News.

Reports of Recent Events

Joint meeting of Flora Group & Surrey Botanical Society at Bourley on 3 August 2008 – a report by Tony Mundell

16 people attended this meeting, with a good representation from both groups. We pottered slowly around a route 4 miles long, chosen to view plants on both the Hampshire and Surrey side of the border in the Bricksbury Hill area near Aldershot. We started at Bourley Bottom Reservoirs, stopping for Littorella uniflora (Shoreweed) and Hypericum elodes (Marsh St John's-wort). Nearby Steven Ettlinger found a plant of the hybrid fern Dryopteris x deweveri growing close to its parents. In the 1970s and 1980s, when the area was actively managed as a water catchment area, the maze of ditches were occasionally strimmed, providing the ideal habitat for large colonies of Wahlenbergia hederacea (Ivy-leaved Bellflower) but since then the ditches have all become overgrown. I thought that the Wahlenbergia had become extinct there, but was delighted to find one tiny seedling whilst checking out the route prior to the meeting. This tiny remnant was shown to the group who were suitably underwhelmed!

We pushed on, in spite of a little rain, and Eric Clement helped with the identification of several alien species including *Acanthus mollis* (Bear's-breech), *Sorbaria sorbifolia*, *Oxalis exilis* (Least Sorrel) and *Leycesteria formosa* (Himalayan Honeysuckle). We stopped for lunch at a site for *Epipactis purpurata* (Violet Helleborine). Up until around 1970 this was in a wonderful beechwood (a

more characteristic habitat for Violet Helleborine) but it was felled and replaced with a crop of alien conifers. I showed the group the Violet Helleborines still hanging on in the conifer plantation and was delighted when we found more as we sat for lunch on some of the conifer trunks that had been blown down by a gale.



The group was shown the last few surviving scraps of

Equisetum sylvaticum (Wood Horsetail). Sadly this is doomed here because of the alien Spruce plantation.

We puzzled over some Whitebeam bushes with unusually small narrow leaves, but specimens sent to Tim Rich were determined the as common Sorbus aria - he commented that its leaves were often like this on acid soils. I asked people to look out for Juncus effusus var subglomeratus, a variety of Soft Rush that has the usual smooth stems, but with compact fruiting



heads rather like Compact Rush. This was duly found – see photo. I am sure it is very common, but underrecorded. However, Debbie drew attention to an unusual rush that turned out to be *Juncus x kern-reichgeltii*, the fertile hybrid between Soft Rush and Compact Rush, which has grooved stems - see the photo. I suspect this is overlooked elsewhere, but it is only the second record for Hampshire – the first was by Francis Rose in 1989 near Oakhanger.

We paid our respects to *Sagina subulata* (Heath Pearlwort) a great rarity in VC12, so it was helpful to have it confirmed by those that knew it well from the New Forest. Near the Surrey/Hants border a detour was made to visit a small colony of *Pyrola minor* (Wintergreen) sadly just outside the grazed area and so threatened by dense birch.

In the Surrey part of the walk we had commanding views from the ridge between Bricksbury Hill and Caesar's Camp, and found many plants of *Cuscuta epithymum* (Dodder) on the heather, including quite a few albino forms. A few of the more intrepid were led down a very steep gully to see *Luzula sylvatica* (Great Wood-rush) and a few plants of *Hieracium diaphanum* (a scarce Hawkweed). Then after visiting a small spring-fed bog with *Narthecium ossifragum* (Bog Asphodel) etc, we completed the loop back to the car park.

Lichen Identification, Wood Crates & Acres Down New Forest 19 October 2008 - a report by Neil Sanderson

Due to the late arrival of the newsletter only four members made it to this meeting, but they were rewarded by good weather and plenty of tuition time.

We followed the same route taken by Francis Rose in about 1986, when he gave an introduction to lichens to the HCC Habitat Survey Team; my introduction to lichens. I did not manage to learn many species that day, but I did learn that lichens were incredibly diverse, grew in abundance in interesting places, said a lot about the ecology of the site and many could be compared in appearance to edible items.

We followed the Highland Water upstream to a well known *Lobaria pulmonaria* Beech then up through the

stunningly rich Wood Crates to the *Cladonia* heath at Acres Down and finally back to the calcareous flush on the east side of Acres Down. Here we diverted into bryology and looked at the 'brown mosses' that characterise calcareous fens, including a fine stand of the moss *Philonotis calcarea*.

In total, I demonstrated 55 lichen species in the wood and 11 on the heath. For those interested, an annotated list with hints for identification can be obtained from the author, along with field notes made by John Norton at neilsand@dircon.co.uk



Thelopsis rubella perithecia (fruit) on a Beech tree by John Norton

Due to the late arrival of Flora News Autumn 2008, this meeting will be held again at a different site in the New Forest. Details will be provided in Flora News Autumn 2009.

News and Views

Progress with the Hampshire Rare Plant Register a note by Martin Rand

We now have a reasonably complete and accurate compilation on computer of the records that meet the strict criteria for a Rare Plant Register; that is, nationally rare, endemic, threatened and statutorily listed species, and locally rare species. This means that we are in a position to publish the first issue of the Register.

Our first thoughts were that at this stage, before we were able to add the locally scarce and declining species, we would make our initial publication through the Web and allow it to be updated dynamically. Unfortunately I have not had enough time to put in the necessary development work over the last two years, so it seems best to us now not to delay further, but to produce a printed document covering the core Register taxa as soon as possible.

Tony Mundell and I are now working to assemble information into book format, with a target date of early spring 2009 to complete. This should allow us to publish during the year. If you came to the meeting at Testwood in December, you will have been able to see the incomplete draft. It is going to be a very detailed and, we believe, informative account; although we shall play with the print format to bring the size and cost down. In its current format it is heading towards about 600 pages! Even if we are able to halve that, it will still be the largest RPR to appear so far (the record is currently held by County Antrim at about 250 pages).

If you have been a significant contributor of records for Hampshire since 1987, we shall be getting in touch with you to ask whether you are willing and able to check records attributed to you in the HRPR. This may sound like a daunting task but the volume will not be that big for most of you, as we are only reporting most recent sightings from a given spot as a rule. If you feel able to do this, your help to ensure the quality of the book will be much appreciated, and acknowledged.

Receiving Flora News via e-mail

Flora News is now available via e-mail. Please contact Natalie Rogers (whose contact details are given at the end of this newsletter) if you received this edition of Flora News as a paper version and would prefer to be sent the next newsletter by e-mail.

ARABLE PLANT CONSERVATION Working in Partnership: FWAG & Flora Group in Hampshire - a note by Debbie Miller

For those of you that have not come across the Farming and Wildlife Advisory Group (FWAG), we are a charitable organisation, set up in the 1960s by a small group of naturalists and farmers keen to promote sustainable farming practices. Forty years on we are now delivering sound conservation advice to farmers throughout England, Wales and Northern Ireland.

We have two FWAG advisers in Hampshire – myself, Debbie Miller, and Rhys Evans. Our role is to engage, enthuse and assist farmers in practical farm conservation activities. We advise on a whole range of subjects from hedgerow management, pond creation, chalk downland restoration to soil management. However, a subject which is particularly close to my heart is arable plant conservation.

In 2005 Hampshire FWAG, HBIC and Hampshire County Council worked together in producing the Hampshire Arable Plant Report. This report collated all known arable plant records and, using GIS layers, added soil type, environmental stewardship options and phase I habitat data to identify arable plant hotspots and areas of 'potential' for arable flora.

During 2006 & 2007, Hampshire FWAG was asked by Plantlife to undertake a series of workshops and arable plant visits to targeted IAPA (Important Arable Plant Area) farms, to discuss arable plant conservation and assist in applying for environmental stewardship grants.

One Flora Group member has been extremely helpful in enabling us to deliver arable plant conservation advice.

Over the past couple of seasons John Moon has very kindly offered to survey specific sites for me to determine arable plant interest on the farm. This knowledge and expertise has been invaluable, enabling me to provide specific advice which is targeted to certain parts of the farm. Up-to-date records have also supported Entry Level Stewardship (ELS) and Higher Level Stewardship (HLS) environmental grant applications and secured management for arable plants.

Management for arable plants or 'weeds', is one of the hardest conservation concepts to sell to farmers. Management for arable plants is not easy – essentially you are recommending the creation of a seed bed into which all manner of weeds can germinate – good and bad – which really can jeopardise the health of the farmer's crop. Whether it is cultivated margins or conservation headlands, management for arable plants never comes without its challenges. John's enthusiasm and knowledge really has helped me begin to change farmers' opinions, BUT... Hampshire is a big county and John only has one pair of hands!

It would be wonderful to hear from anyone who might be interested in getting involved in some arable plant surveys this year. Depending on response, I would like to run a similar article in our FWAG newsletter early this year, to see if we can generate a list of farmers willing to have arable plant surveys undertaken on their farms this summer. We could then 'pair up' farmer and botanist; provide maps to the surveyor with an indication of where to focus effort and then FWAG could follow up with the arable plant conservation advice. If successful, we could then roll this out further, targeting 'hotspot areas' identified in the Hampshire Arable Plants Report.

We have already visited a number of farms last autumn which we feel have the potential for arable plant conservation and who have subsequently signed up for an arable plant survey in 2009.

So... if you are interested, please contact Peter Billinghurst, with details of phone number, email address and the general area in which you would prefer to operate (e.g. whole of Hampshire/Isle of Wight, within 20km of X, etc). His email address is plantsurvey@f2s.com and 'phone 01264 736359.

Opportunity for Flora Group members to borrow GPS equipment

When submitting botanical records, it is important to provide an accurate grid reference of the plant's location. By using GPS equipment, this is made much easier. The Wildlife Trust owns GPS equipment which can be loaned to Flora Group members. If you are interested in the possibility of borrowing GPS equipment from the Trust, please contact Natalie Rogers at the Trust office. Natalie's contact details are given at the end of this newsletter.

An alien Lady's Bedstraw – a note by Tony Mundell

To ease traffic congestion a second bridge was constructed a few years ago, very close to the existing Norris Bridge over the Basingstoke Canal east of Fleet. A new road was also constructed from the bridge new through part of what had earlier been the National Gas Turbine Establishment at Pyestock, and a car park was made close to the two bridges. This involved



Galium verum cf subsp ruthenicum by Tony Mundel

importing large quantities of soil, so it is not surprising that it has led to some alien plants being found. Common alien plants in the car park area include *Sedum album*, *Carex pendula*, *Lychnis coronaria*, *Buddleja davidiana*, *Lysimachia nummularia* and *Melissa officinalis*. The new road verges soon sported *Lotus corniculatus var sativus*, a well-known foreign contaminant of sown grass seed. In 2008 Chris Hall mentioned to me a pink-flowered plant beside a cycle-way on the new bridge, which turned out to be the garden cultivar *Potentilla nepalensis* 'Miss Willmott', and Chris also drew my attention to an unusual yellow-flowered Bedstraw growing in the car park area.

I visited on 26 July 2008 and counted 50 strictly erect, robust yellow Bedstraw spikes with stems up to 4.2mm in diameter, several exceeding 1.5m high, growing in several places in the car park area. See the photos. I collected a specimen, photographed it, and sent it off to Eric Clement. As always, Eric came up with a name. He said that very old books call this plant *Galium ruthenicum* Willd. (1798), and then later it became *Galium verum* subsp. *ruthenicum* (Willd.) P. Fourn.; which Flora Europaea Vol.4 p.22 dismisses as a "doubtful" taxon (A host of apparent intermediates suggest it is a cline rather



than a discrete taxon).

As the area surrounding the site is acid heathland, where our native *Galium verum* (Lady's Bedstraw) could not grow naturally, it is clear that this tall Bedstraw is an alien that arrived with the imported soil. Eric suggests that it is best recorded as *Galium verum* cf. subsp. *ruthenicum* (the cf. is an abbreviation for the Latin word confer, basically

meaning that it 'compares with'). He points out that it is new to Britain or at least missed in his book, Clement & Foster (1994).

As the photos show, the plants are very different in 'jizz' from our common native Lady's Bedstraw, mainly

because of the tall erect growth habit. The stem of the plant that I am holding may not be obvious in the photo, but its end reaches right down to the ground. I went back a few weeks after my first visit to see if the plants were setting seed, but was surprised to find that the car park area, which is remote from any houses, had been strimmed, and every single plant had been chopped off at ground level. As it is a perennial I expect it to make a return next year, though regular mowing will finish it off.

References

CLEMENT, E J & Foster, M C (1994) Alien Plants of the British Isles, published BSBI.

New and Interesting Lichens and Associated Fungi from Hampshire 2008 - by Neil A Sanderson

Lichens on Flora Group Meetings

Other than the Lichen Identification Training Meeting, some lichen recording was carried out on the meeting to Bourley Bottom, Bricksbury Hill and Caesars Camp, covering grid squares SU85 & 84, on the 3rd August. In Hampshire a few new 10km national grid squares records were produced of common but overlooked species By the lower lake: *Porpidia crustulata* on flint, new to SU85, as were *Rhizocarpon reductum* and *Collema auriforme*. On the top we got into heathland and SU84. The formerly quarried areas were richer in lichens, and in Hampshire (SU824 495) species recorded were *Porpidia crustulata*, *Trapelia coarctata*, *Rhizocarpon reductum* and *Porpidia soredizodes* on flint, the latter two new to SU84 as was the terricolous *Cladonia cervicornis ssp verticillata*.

It was not until we were into Sussex, however, that the lichen find of the meeting was made. Just after we were shown a colony of normal and yellow forms of *Cuscuta epithymum* in the north east corner of Caesars Camp, Andy Cross picked up some *Cladonia* squamules speckled with tiny apothecia of a fungal parasite at SU83365003, these latter identified by Brian Coppins as *Phaeopyxis punctum*, new to England!

Outside the New Forest

A couple of contract surveys have produced some interesting records. In spring, I surveyed HWT reserve at Noar Hill (SU74 31) for lower plants. This has a rich



lichen flora on chalk pebbles and patches of bare chalk and some strong populations of declining chalk g r a s s l a n d mosses. The best find was a tiny black

shrubby lichen *Leptogium tenuissimum* (NS) in small patches of bare soil on the slopes of Gentian Pit in chalk grassland (SU74 31), a new vice county record. Below

the chalk pits I also had a look at the relic Beech pasture woodland and on a dead standing Beech found the tiny bright yellow pin head *Chaenotheca brachypoda* (NS), also a new vice county record. This species is very typical of standing dead Beech and Ash and is being found more as standing dead wood is left in woods.

I also had a look at Highclere Park for Natural England, to try to help reconcile maintaining both the lichen interest and populations of rare early horticultural hybrids of Rhododendrons. The survey found many new species for the park, mainly in the woods to the west of the lake and the grasslands where the Flora Group visited some years ago. This brought the lichen interest of the park up into the top four sites in Hampshire outside the New Forest along with Hurstbourne Park, Waggoners Wells and West Walk. Highlights included two other pin head species Chaenotheca hispidula and Chaenotheca stemonea on old Oaks, the former a new vice county record and the latter the second record outside the New Forest. The Near Threatened *Micarea pycnidiophora* on Alder was new to the Thames Basin as was the Alder twig specialist Stenocybe pullatula. Finally an unexpected find was the bright yellow discs of Dimerella lutea abundant on one Oak. This was new to North Hampshire and a considerable extension on its existing known range, it being 50km to the nearest existing records. This species appears also to be currently undergoing a population explosion on the New Forest, presumably, either climate, or air quality, are improving for this species.

The New Forest

The New Forest never fails to surprise and so far this winter new records are pouring in, mainly thanks to a Natural England contract looking at the lichens on ancient Beech. Prior to this, the season got off to a good start with the discovery of a grey brown sorediate crust with some strange chemical reactions found on the dry side of an ancient Oak in Wormstall Wood (SZ35 98). This appears to be *Peterjamesia sorediata* (NR), a recently described sorediate sister species of the more frequent fertile Peterjamesia circumscripta (Sclerophtyomyces circumscriptus), both are an uncommon species of overhanging dry coastal rocks in the south west. If confirmed, this will be the first record of Peterjamesia sorediata from trees, and a significant addition to the internationally important lichen flora of dry bark on ancient Oaks.

The Natural England contract involves looking for the Critically Endangered, BAP and Schedule 8 lichen Fancy Writing *Enterographa elaborata* (NR). This was rediscovered in 1993 in Busketts wood during an HWT Species Recovery Project looking at two other rare lichens. At the time it had not been seen since the 19th century and was feared lost. After this no more trees were found and the original tree died in about 2000. Extinction loomed as the original tree fell apart, but in 2006 Andy Cross and I found a tiny colony at James's Hill and then I found a second larger one at Denny Wood in 2007. Spurred on by this Natural England let a contract to me to search for more sites and record the habitats of the existing colonies. This was a bit

daunting; I could spend two weeks in the field and find no new *Enterographa elaborata* colonies. In light of this, the project was planned also to record the density and habitats of other BAP and Red Data Book species within likely old Beech stands. In addition, the density of wound tracks was to be recorded, as *Enterographa elaborata* appears to specialise in colonising largely bare wound tracks as they heal. *Enterographa elaborata* needs to get in early but seems not to manage this very often. Once an old wound track has been recolonised and developed into a rain track habitat it becomes dominated by static mosaics of late succession lichens. This precludes further recolonisation. Collecting these data involved detailed searching of all the beech trees within small mapped blocks of likely habitat.

This work is ongoing; on writing this I have two field days left, but to date the method has proved spectacularly successful. Detailed searching on all trees in an area forces a heightened concentration in which all sorts of niches on the trees are looked at with a new eye. The result has not only been seven new trees with *Enterographa elaborata* but four new species to Hampshire: *Arthonia anombrophila* (NS, IR) and *Lauderlindsaya acroglypta* (NS), both upland species very rare in the lowlands, and *Micarea alabastrites* (IR) and *Opegrapha thelotrematis* both western species not previously recorded from the lowlands. Several new sites for New Forest rarities have also been found.



Part of a new Fancy Writing Enterographa elaborata colony at James's Hill, with Enterographa elaborata surrounded by the common Enterographa crassa.

The last day of survey to date, ended in the gathering gloom and increasing drizzle in a magical area of Mark Ash Wood, with groves of ancient Beeches around the head of a mire. First one tiny colonist thallus of *Enterographa elaborata* was found shining out on the edge of a wound track, then another on a second tree; new to the wood! Then as I looked at a final tree before dark, one I had recorded in 1993, I saw a nice mature thallus of Fancy Writing reflecting in my hand lens light, then another and another:- wow at least five of them. Well there was no doubt in my mind now where the next day's survey would start ... the story continues, did I find more *Enterographa elaborata* here?

Wessex Lichen Group

The Wessex Lichen Group meets regularly to record lichens and encourage lichenology in Hampshire, Dorset and Wiltshire. All interested in lichens are welcome and to be placed on the email list please email Neil at neilsand@dircon.co.uk.

Berkshire Flora Group

The Berkshire Flora Group has provided details of events in 2009. These are free events and places are limited, so please contact Alice Fenton at the Thames Valley Environmental Records Centre to book your place. Alice Fenton email: afenton@westberks.gov.uk tel 01635 519977 (direct dial).

Sunday 25 January 2009, 10am – 1pm

Conifer and Herbarium day at the University of Reading, Whiteknights Campus with Dr Michael Keith-Lucas

Get to know your conifers better with many experts on hand. Join Dr Michael Keith-Lucas, Ronnie Rutherford, Dr Stephen Jury and Rob Glover on a tour around the substantial conifer collection at Whiteknights campus. We will also visit the University Herbarium and look at the famous Lousley collection of British wild flowers.

Sunday 8 March 2009, 11am – 3pm

Winter Tree identification at Silwood Park, Ascot with Prof. Mick Crawley

Want to polish up your winter tree identification, or just beginning? Join Prof. Mick Crawley for a walk around Silwood Park where we will get to grips with a wide range of tree species. Bring a packed lunch.

Sunday 12 April 2009, 2.30pm onwards Bryophyte day at Wokefield Common, Burghfield with Dr Royce Longton

An informal wander around Wokefield common with Dr Royce Longton, looking at the many mosses and liverworts that grow here.

Sunday 7 June 2009, 11am – 3pm

Arable day at Silwood Park, Ascot with Prof. Mick Crawley

Another chance to visit Silwood Park, this time we will be looking at the plants of arable fields, which are one of the most threatened group of plants in Britain today. Bring a packed lunch.

Sunday 14 June 2009, 2.30 pm onwards Grasses and sedges at Cock Marsh, Cookham with Dr Michael Keith-Lucas

Join us for a look at the grasses and sedges of this National Trust site near Cookham. We will be able to see chalk grassland and wetland species at this varied and interesting site.

If you would like to be added to or removed from the Berkshire Flora Group mailing list, or would like to become more involved with the group, then please contact:

Alice Fenton email: afenton@westberks.gov.uk tel: 01635 519977 (direct dial)

Address: Thames Valley Environmental Records Centre (TVERC), c/o Planning, Council Offices, Market Street, Newbury, Berkshire, RG14 5LD

VC11 records compiled by Martin Rand

I have now caught up with a large part of my backlog, except for several site and species surveys with long lists; hence this is a bumper issue. Thank you to all those people who are making use of the electronic spreadsheet; this helps cut down on the amount of manual re-entry I have to do. But thanks also to those who aren't able to use this; your records are still every bit as welcome.

As in previous issues, I have included records for species that may not be especially rare in our area but are of conservation concern and have not been recorded in a particular spot for some time. The notes with these indicate just how old some of the records were now becoming, and I would urge everyone to submit records of Hampshire Notables, including as much detail as possible. Even if you think something is 'well known' at a site, that doesn't mean to say it's well recorded.

The most significant finds of native and archaeophyte plants are picked out with a box. 'Hampshire Notable' species are marked with a *****, except where all records given are likely to prove casual or deliberate introductions. Candidates for the notables list are shown in brackets: [*****]. A tetrad is a 2km x 2km square – the basic distribution mapping unit of the 1996 Flora of Hampshire. Records for those parts of VC8 (South Wiltshire) now in administrative Hampshire are also included.

Records for the next issue by end of June, please.

Recorder abbreviations: ABa = Andrea Bassett, AEB = Alison Bolton, BGo = Barry Goater, CC = Clive Chatters, DHub = David Hubble, DL = David Leadbetter, DMit = Dianne Mitchell, DN = DRA = Debbie Allan, DWo = David Wood, EAP = Rev. Ted Pratt, FJR = Fred Rumsey, GCo = Ginnie Copsey, HFG = Hampshire Flora Group, JAN = John Norton, JCI = Jason Claxton, JCre = Jon Crewe, JGo = Jane Goater, JMill = Joel Miller, JPol = John Poland, JRWH = Ralph Hollins, LMar = Loraine Martin, MR = Martin Rand, MWo = Mark Woods, MWR = Mike Rowe, NAS = Neil Sanderson, PAB = Phil Budd, PW = Pat Woodruffe, RCR = Clare Rand, RFG = Ralph Goodchild, SJP = Sharon Pilkington, VS = Vera Scott, WBS = Wiltshire Botanical Society, WGH = Bill Helyar.

Agrostemma githago (Corncockle): Sewage Works, SU709052; 19 Jul 2008; Bills, J. 50 - 60 corncockle currently flowering beside a newly built car park near Budds Water treatment farm, Havant, on recently excavated subsoil. [Occurring with *Chrysanthemum segetum* and almost certainly a deliberate sowing – MR]

[♣]*Agrostis vinealis* (Brown Bent): Upper Pennington & Pennington Commons, SZ3095; 01 Jul 2007; DWo & MWo. 1st for SZ39

Ailanthus altissima (Tree-of-heaven): Newman Street - Oxfam Car Park, Shirley, SU397139; 27 Aug 2008; PAB. 3 foot high sapling. **1**st for SU31

Allium schoenoprasum (Chives): Hengistbury Head, SZ1890; 30 Jun 2007; DWo & MWo. 1st for SZ19

Amaranthus retroflexus (Common Amaranth): Seafield Park - Compartment 4, SU551021; 11 Aug 2008; PAB. 11 plants. Seafield Park, Stubbington, SU550020; 26 Sep 2008; PAB, JAN & EJC. Plant less than 10cm high. 1st for SU50

Ammi visnaga (Toothpick-plant): Seafield Park, Stubbington - former allotments, SU55100205; 11 Aug 2008; PAB. 2 plants. 26 Sep 2008; PAB, JAN & EJC. 1st for SU50, 2nd for VC11 (1st since 1970) *Anagallis arvensis* subsp. *foemina* (Blue Pimpernel): Havant Town east, SU7205; 10 Jul 2008; JRWH. Reported as regular in garden of Granville Close off Pook Lane with 200+ Common Spottted Orchids. To be confirmed, as it was not positively distinguished from *Anagallis arvensis* subsp. *arvensis* forma *azurea*, but potentially 1st for SU70

Anagallis tenella (Bog Pimpernel): Havant Warblington SSSI, SU7305; 13 Jun 2008; JRWH. Plentiful in marshy ground beside stream. **1**st for SU70 since 1970

Anemone apennina (Blue Anemone): Havant Eastern Road cemetery, SU7206; 11 Mar 2008; JRWH. Few plants flourishing in corner of cemetery. **1st for SU70**

Anisantha diandra (Great Brome): S of Critchells Green, Lockerley, SU292255; 22 Jul 2008; MR. Occasional, headland of arable, SU2925 2555. **1st for SU22**

Anthemis austriaca (Austrian Chamomile): Lee-on-the-Solent E, SZ565999; 10 Jul 2007; JAN & PAB E.g. SZ5658 9999 - embankment by promenade. Introduced - with other introduced plants. (Id conf. by EJC on later visit). **1**st **for SZ59.** Lee-on-the-Solent, SU564001; 10 Aug 2007; JAN & PAB SU5647 0016, embankment by promenade. (? Sown or introduced with new soil). Lee-on-the-Solent, SU565000; 12 Aug 2007; JAN, DRA & EJC. SU5653 0007. Probably introduced with sown wild flower mix. Embankment by promenade. **1**st **for SU50**

Arabis caucasica (Garden Arabis): Nursling Street West, SU370163; 24 Mar 2008; JCI. By entrance to car park of Four Horseshoes pub. **New vice-county record**

Arctium lappa (Greater Burdock): Stroudbridge area, SU7222; 23 Jul 2008; MR & RCR. 1st for SU72 for VC11

Aster tripolium var. discoideus (Sea Aster): Ashlett Creek, SU467032; 01 Aug 2007; MR & GCo. 1st for SU40 for the variety though surely under-recorded

Atriplex glabriuscula (Babington's Orache): Calshot - shore by power station, SU4702; 07 Sep 2008; MR & Wiltshire Botanical Society. Occasional, shingle near swing bridge. **New tetrad**

Atriplex laciniata (Frosted Orache): Royal Victoria Country Park, SU461076; 31 Aug 2008; JAN & PAB. New tetrad

Atropa belladonna (Deadly Nightshade): Dean Hill Park Cpt. 01 Sidings East, SU285266; 10 Jul 2007; PW. In field near sidings. 1st for SU22 in VC11

Aucuba japonica (Spotted-laurel): Smuggler's Lane - South, Christchurch, SZ199937; 17 Mar 2008; PAB. One bush with fruit and two small self-sown plants nearby. **1**st for SZ19

Baldellia ranunculoides (Lesser Water-plantain): Longdown SW, SU3705; 05 Sep 2007; PAB. New tetrad. Beaulieu Heath E, SU406053; 17 Sep 2008; MR. 1st in tetrad since 1930

Barbarea verna (American Winter-cress): Hurst Castle Beach & Marsh, SZ3189; 01 Jul 2007; DWo & MWo. Hurst Castle, SZ318898; 24 May 2008; DL. NE side of castle. **1st for SZ38**

Berberis darwinii (Darwin's Barberry): Merdon Avenue, Chandlers Ford, SU439214; 03 Feb 2007; JPol & PAB. (Bird-sown?) dwarf plant a wall on the south side of the junction with Kingsway. Wayleave, Valley Park, SU429209; 08 Jul 2008; DHub. Wayleave, Valley Park – NE, SU42882088; 08 Jul 2008; DHub. **1st for SU42**

Berberis julianae (Chinese Barberry): Bassett Crossroads - SW corner, SU417152; 02 May 2008; PAB conf. EJC. 1st for SU41

Berberis vulgaris (Barberry): B3035/Vicarage Lane Junction, Curdridge, SU522133; 06 Nov 2008; PAB. 3 bushes in native hedge on north-side road verge. **1**st for SU51

Berberis wilsoniae (Mrs Wilson's Barberry): Studland Common, Milford on Sea, SZ278920; 07 May 2007; MWR. Bush over 3m, woodland, SZ2789 9202. **New vice-county record**

Bidens ferulifolia (Fern-leaved Beggarticks): Post Office Bishop's Waltham, SU553175; 30 Sep 2008; GCo. In pavement under window boxes, 2 plants. **New vice-county record**

Bromus racemosus (Smooth Brome): Keyhaven Marshes, SZ3091; 01 Jul 2007; DWo & MWo. New tetrad

Buddleja x *weyeriana* (*B. davidii* x *globosa*): East side of the A3057 opposite the Malthouse Inn, Timsbury, SU341253; 29 Jul 2007; PAB. 1 bush. **1**st for SU32

Bupleurum tenuissimum (Slender Hare's-ear): Havant Hayling Saltmarsh Lane shore, SU7100; 15 Sep 2008; JRWH. Good clump now past flowering beside track from Billy Line to seawall. 1st in tetrad since 1930

Callistephus chinensis (China Aster): Seafield Park, Stubbington - former allotments, SU55100205; 11 Aug 2008; PAB. c. 20 plants **1**st **for SU50**

[*****]*Cardamine amara* (Large Bitter-cress): Woodmill Salmon Pools, Southampton, SU440153; 03 May 2008; PAB. **1**st record in tetrad since 1951

Carduus crispus (Welted Thistle): Hengistbury, SZ163912; 27 May 2008; DL. Roadside W of Hikers Cafe (N side). 1st for SZ19 since 1970

Carex elongata (Elongated Sedge): Hurn Forest, Fir Grove Copse, SZ10759994; 06 Jul 2007; NAS. In long established bog woodland between SZ1076 9996 to SZ1074 9993. 13 plants, 2 fertile. New tetrad

Carthamus tinctorius (Safflower): Summer Street Playground, Northam, SU431127; 02 Oct 2007; PAB. **1**st for SU41

[*****]*Catapodium marinum* (Sea Fern-grass): Longfield Road, Hordle, SZ276949; 22 Jul 2007; MWR. Garden fence / pavement junction. **New tetrad**

Chamaecyparis lawsoniana (Lawson's Cypress): Baker's Row, Beaulieu, SU3903; 01 Sep 2007; BGo & JGo. Hawkhill Inclosure, SU345024; 08 Feb 2008; MR. **1**st **for SU30 as regenerating plants**

Claytonia sibirica (Pink Purslane): Furzy Gardens, Minstead, SU273113; 23 May 2007; RFG. Well established in ditches. **1st for SU21**

[♥]*Clinopodium ascendens* (Common Calamint): N of North Park Farm, Stockbridge, SU3734; 25 Aug 2008; LMar & ABa. 1st for SU33

Conyza sumatrensis (Guernsey Fleabane): A3090, Ampfield, SU399231; 26 Jul 2008; MR & RCR. Bus bay on S side of road. **1st for SU32**

Cornus mas (Cornelian-cherry): Druitt Gardens, Christchurch, SZ157927; 27 Aug 2007; RMW. 1st for SZ19

Cornus sanguinea (Dogwood): Gilkicker (and Golf course), SZ604978; 17 Oct 2007; JAN, DRA & EJC. SZ6042 9786, 2 saplings <1m high, presumably bird-sown, in rank grass near scrub S of Golf Course. **1st for SZ69 in VC11**

Cornus sericea (Red-osier Dogwood): Mallards Moor, Hamble - Former Pit - South Edge, SU479085; 08 May 2007;PAB. **1**st for SU40

Cosmos bipinnatus (Mexican Aster): Seafield Park - Compartment 3, SU551019; 07 Sep 2008; PAB. 2 plants. Seafield Park, Stubbington, SU551020; 26 Sep 2008; DRA, JAN & EJC det. EJC. 9 plants. **1st for SU50**

Cotoneaster bullatus (Hollyberry Cotoneaster): Warsash Common - Compartment F, SU501058; 22 Aug 2008; PAB. Recorded at SU49970594. **1**st **for SU50**

Cotoneaster franchetii (Franchet's Cotoneaster): Home Wood – West, SU425176; 17 Apr 2007; PAB. One bird sown. **1st for SU41**

Cotoneaster integrifolius (Entire-leaved Cotoneaster): Honeycombe Chine, Southbourne, SZ113912; 03 Jun 2007; RMW. A grassy bank beside the footpath. **1**st **for SZ19**

Cotoneaster rehderi (Bullate Cotoneaster): East Dean Sidings W, SU275266; 09 Sep 2007; HFG / WBS survey team det. MR. One plant. **1st for SU22**

Cotula cf. *squalida* (Leptinella): Vereley Hill area, Burley, SU 201046; 14 May 2008; AEB. In a triangle of Forest grazed turf. **New vice-county record** if confirmed.

Crassula tillaea (Mossy Stonecrop): Sandy Point, Hayling Island, SZ750983; 11 May 2008; JAN. Small patches in grassland to south of bench/footpath. New tetrad

Crataegus crus-galli (Cockspur-thorn): Stoke Lake S viaduct, SZ606986; 20 Sep 2008; JAN & DRA det. EJC. One plant, South side of viaduct. **2**nd vice-county record and **1**st for SZ69

Cryptomeria japonica (Japanese Red-cedar): Markway Inclosure, SU244024; 17 Jan 2008; VS. Single bushy tree, SU2446 0241. 1st for SU20

Cyclamen hederifolium (Sowbread): Calcot Lane, Durley - near Blind Lane junction, SU532149; 13 Feb 2008; PAB. Naturalised. Warsash Common - Compartment F, SU501058; 22 Aug 2008; PAB. On edge of a pit where garden refuse had been dumped. **1st for SU51**. King's Way, nr Whiteflood Farmhouse, SU533237; 02 Mar 2007; JAN & DRA. W side of lane. Presume escaped from adjacent garden. **1st for SU52**

Cynara cardunculus (Globe Artichoke): Mansbridge Marsh – West, SU442154; 07 Mar 2007; PAB. 3 plants, one plant later flowered. **New vice-county record**

Cyperus eragrostis (Pale Galingale): Fryern Hill, Chandlers Ford, SU440210; 22 Dec 2007; MR. Pavement weed, Oakmount Road. **1st for SU42**. RNAD Gosport, SU594043; 2007; JMill. Occasional in pond, SU5943 0439 (possibly introduced). **1st for SU50**. Broadmarsh, Bedhampton, SU698055; 23 Aug 2008; EAP. Rough ground S of roundabout. **1st for SU60**

Dactylorhiza x *grandis* (*D. fuchsii* x *praetermissa*): Hurn Forest, pipeline ride by Barnsfield Heath, SU113008; 06 Jul 2007; NAS. In grazed pipeline ride, SU11330087. **1**st **for SU10**

Diplotaxis tenuifolia (Perennial Wall-rocket): Havant town centre, SU7106; 04 Aug 2008; JRWH. On rail track west of signalbox. **1**st **for SU70** since 1970

Dittrichia graveolens (Stinking Fleabane): A31 Picket Post, SU1906; 17 Oct 2008; MR. Top of W bound off slip. 1st **localised record for SU10**. M3, Highcliffe, SU4928; 12 Oct 2008; MR. South bound carriageway in verge. 1st **for SU42**

Dracunculus vulgaris (Dragon Arum): Botany Bay, Sholing, SU455111; 21 Mar 2007; PAB. On a bank by road - not flowering. **2nd and only extant record for SU41**, its site of several years at the Swan Centre, Eastleigh having been destroyed by redevelopment.

Dryopteris affinis subsp. *affinis* (Scaly Male-fern): Widow Knight's Copse, Langrish, SU722223; 23 Jul 2008; MR & RCR. SU7223 2235. **1st for SU72** for subspecies.

Dryopteris x *deweveri* (*D. carthusiana* x *dilatata*): Busketts Lawn Inclosure, SU314104; 06 Sep 2008; MR & M. Stribley. Scattered individual plants with parents, eg at SU3144 1041. **1**st for SU31

Duchesnea indica (Yellow-flowered Strawberry): Havant Town, SU7105; 13 Jan 2008; JRWH. In roadside grass of Juniper Square - flowering and fruiting from Jan to Nov this year. **1**st **for SU70**

Epilobium lanceolatum (Spear-leaved Willowherb): S of Ashlett Green, SU469031; 07 Sep 2008; MR & WBS. Over quite a wide area on the introduced gravel of the area N of the power station. 1st for SU40

Epipactis palustris (Marsh Helleborine): Boundway Hill, Sway, SZ257985; 29 Jun 2007; WGH. 1st in tetrad since 1967 (recent records are from farther east)

Erigeron acer (Blue Fleabane): Dean Hill Park, SU266263; 08 Sep 2007; HFG survey party. Sidings and adjoining banks. Dean Hill Park: Cpt. 24: Tracks and Rail Hants, SU268263; 07 Jul 2007; PW. Railway close to Conservation Room, SU 26842634. Dean Hill Park: Cpt. 01: Sidings West, SU277267; 10 Jul 2007; PW. Dean Hill Park: Cpt. 01: Sidings East, SU285266; 07 Sep 2007; PW. 1st for SU22 in VC11

Erodium moschatum (Musk Stork's-bill): Pennington Tip Gravel Pit - south side, SZ311931; 17 Mar 2008; PAB. 1st for SZ39

Eschscholzia californica (Californian Poppy): Pennington Tip Gravel Pit - south side, SZ311931; 17 Mar 2008; PAB. **1**st **for SZ39**

Euphorbia exigua (Dwarf Spurge): Pains Hill, Lockerley, SU288254; 22 Jul 2008; MR. Rare, W margin of arable S of lane. 1st for SU22 since 1964

Euphorbia oblongata (Balkan Spurge): Osmund Bushes, SU232005; 03 Jul 2008; VS det. EJC. 2-3 plants, car park, SU2326 0056. **1st for SU20**

Euphrasia anglica (Glandular Eyebright): Plain Heath E of A35, SZ220989; Jul 2008; CC. 1st in tetrad since 1963.

Euphrasia nemorosa x *micrantha*: E of Fawley Power Station, Calshot, SU477023; 07 Sep 2008; MR & WBS. Bank by swing bridge (and elsewhere in turf in 1km square, and in SU4603 and SU4703, locally abundant). **1**st **for SU40**

Festuca rubra subsp. *litoralis* (Saltmarsh Red Fescue): Sowley, SZ379961; 01 Jun 2008; MR & HFG. **1**st for SZ39

Festuca rubra subsp. *megastachys*: Hilsea Lines - between creek and moat, SU663043; 03 Jun 2008; PAB. **2**nd vice-county record

Ficus carica (Fig): River Itchen, Bar End, Winchester, SU4828; 04 Jun 2007; PAB. By east bank of River Itchen. **1st for SU42**

Galanthus plicatus (Pleated Snowdrop;Rowner Road / Rowner Copse), SU583018; 04 Feb 2008; DRA. Escape from garden/cultivation; just outside garden immediately adjacent to Rowner Copse. (ID on site by EJC on 29-Apr-2008). **1**st **for SU50**

Galium x *pomeranicum* (*G. mollugo* x *verum*): Ashlett Green, Fawley, SU468032; 07 Sep 2008; MR & WBS. Three flowering spikes at SU4683 0323. **1**st for SU40

Gaudinia fragilis (French Oat-grass): Thornhill Plantation, SU467128; 2007; JMill. A few plants on grassy bank, SU4677 1280. New tetrad

Geranium endressii (French Crane's-bill): Chancellor Lane & Stapleford Lane junction, Durley, SU513157; 20 Jul 2008; PAB. **1st for SU51**

Geranium purpureum (Little-Robin): Hilsea Lines - north side of creek, SU660044; 03 Jun 2008; PAB. 10 plants. New tetrad

Geranium sanguineum var. *sanguineum* (Bloody Crane's-bill): North side of Overcliff Drive, Bournemouth, SZ098910; 26 May 2007; PAB. **1**st for SZ09

Geranium x *magnificum* (Purple Crane's-bill): Stanpit, Christchurch - west of public car park, SZ165927; 20 May 2007; PAB. **1**st **for SZ19**

Gymnadenia conopsea (Fragrant Orchid): Dean Hill Park: Cpt. 26: Blast Banks Hants, SU266261; Jun 2007; PW. At SU26602615. **1st for SU22 in VC11**

Helleborus foetidus (Stinking Hellebore): Osmund Bushes, SU232005; 15 Nov 2008; VS. At SU2325 0059. 1st for SU20

Hemerocallis fulva (Orange Day-lily): Wayleave, Valley Park, SU428207; 08 Jul 2008; DHub. **1**st for SU42

Hieracium acuminatum (Tall Hawkweed): this plant, which has been recorded widely in Hampshire, should probably be relabelled '*Hieracium acuminatum* group' for the time being, as the name *H. acuminatum* Jord. has now been applied strictly by Sell and Murrell to a native plant of the Welsh borders. Many of our Hampshire plants may be referrable to *H. argillaceum* Jord., but *H. consociatum* Jord. ex Boreau and possibly *H. nemophilum* Jord. ex Boreau may occur. Re-examination of collections and in the field is desirable.

Hieracium maculatum (Spotted Hawkweed): Portsmouth Portsdown, SU6606; 23 May 2008; JRWH. 1 or 2 plants in full flower in unmown grass east of London Rd close to road bridge. New tetrad

Hottonia palustris (Water-violet): Balancing pond channel Valley Park, SU421204; 09 Oct 2008; DHub. Abundant in drainage channel beneath footbridge. **1**st **for SU42** but doubtless a deliberate introduction.

Hypericum hircinum (Stinking Tutsan): River Itchen, Bar End, Winchester, SU4828; 04 Jun 2007; PAB. By east bank of River Itchen. **1**st for SU42

Hypericum x *inodorum* (Tall Tutsan, *H. androsaemum* x *hircinum*): Monks Brook, Valley Park, SU425212; 18 Mar 2008; MR. 1st for SU42. Hollybank Woods, SU744084; 18 May 2008; MR, JAN & DRA. With last year's fruit. 1st for SU70

Hypochaeris glabra (Smooth Cat's-ear): NW of Dudmoor Farm, Christchurch, SZ148962; Aug 2008; JCre. c. 6 plants at SZ18434 96241, a large patch and one further plant at SZ14853 96222. Very sandy field occasionally grazed by horses and regularly grazed by rabbits. New tetrad

Iberis umbellata (Garden Candytuft): Western Road to Hilldene Footpath, West End, SU468141; 13 May 2007; PAB. **1st for SU41**

Illecebrum verticillatum (Coral-necklace): Hurn Forest, Avon Common S of HRZ, SZ128979; 28 Jun 2007; NAS. At SZ12857 97903 ±21m abundant in two ruts at junction of rides. New tetrad

Impatiens parviflora (Small Balsam): Boscombe Chine, SZ108914; 19 May 2007; PAB. 1st for SZ19

Isolepis cernua (Slender Club-rush): Withybed Bottom, SU249102; 17 Oct 2008; MR. Locally frequent.
Withybed Bottom, SU252103; 17 Oct 2008; MR. Locally frequent. Longbrook Lawn Withybed Bottom, SU254104; 17 Oct 2008; MR. Occasional. Flowering profusely in all spots. 1st in tetrad since 1969.

Juncus effusus var. *subglomeratus* (Soft Rush): Hillier Arboretum, SU376240; 26 Jul 2008; MR & RCR. In unmown grassland. **1st for SU32** but undoubtedly heavily under-recorded.

Lactuca serriola f. *serriola* (Prickly Lettuce): Bitterne Railway Station, SU438134; 27 Jun 2008; PAB. With sagittate leaves. Much the rarer form these days.

Lactuca virosa (Great Lettuce): Pirelli Way, Eastleigh, SU450189; 28 Jan 2008; PAB. Campbell Road, Eastleigh - west of houses, SU457181;11; 23 Jan 2008; PAB. Under a tree on north side of road. **New tetrad**

Laurus nobilis (Bay): North of Danes Stream Farm, Bashley, SZ251970; 17 Mar 2008; PAB. One foot high sapling. **1st for SZ29**. N of Stoke Common, SU717039; 24 Mar 2007; MR & RCR. Two by coastal path leading to Hayling Billy trail at SU7179 0392. **1st for SU70**

Lepidium draba (Hoary Cress): Dean Hill Park: Cpt. 24: Tracks and Rail Hants, SU2667263; 07 Jul 2007; PW. Railway close to Conservation Room, SU2666 2634. **1**st for SU22 in VC11

Libertia formosa (Chilean-iris): Hengistbury Head, SZ182908; 27 May 2008; DL det. EJC. SE side below cliff. **New vice-county record**

Linaria x *dominii* (*L. purpurea* x *repens*): Stoke Lake S viaduct, SZ606986; 20 Sep 2008; JAN & DRA det. DRA. Fruits still small & not fully developed. South side of viaduct. Alverstoke cycleway, SZ606987; 20 Sep 2008; JAN & DRA det. DRA. Photographic record. Plant mature, fruit not developing. **1**st for SZ69

Linum bienne (Pale Flax): Ocknell Plain, SU2312; Aug 2008; CC. New tetrad

Lonicera pileata (Box-leaved Honeysuckle): Waterford, Lymington, SZ334949; 03 May 2008; DL. Start of coastal walk by sea wall. **1st for SZ39**

Luzula sylvatica (Great Wood-rush): S of Whitsbury Wood, SU137179; 07 May 2008; AEB. 1st in tetrad since 1977, 1st at site since 1958

Lychnis coronaria (Rose Campion): Wayleave, Valley Park – SW, SU427206; 08 Jul 2008; DHub. At SU42792069. **1st for SU42**. Broom Way crash gate No4, SU570020; 02 Oct 2008; DRA. At least 6 plants, W. side of Broom Way, verge to N. of access road. **1st for SU50**

Medicago polymorpha (Toothed Medick): Milton Common, SU675006; 11 Sep 2007; JMill. In dampish hollow in rough grassland, SU6751 0061. 1st for SU60 since 1940

Melampodium montanum (Mountain Blackfoot): 5 Jul 2007; G Hounsome & EJC. Pavement weed outside hairdresser's shop next to Post Office, persisting for a couple of years. Warsash, SU489061; 10 Sep 2008; GCo. Pavement next to dinghy park fence with *Poa annua* and *Stellaria media*. 50yds from River Hamble. (No window boxes in immediate vicinity.) **1**st and **2**nd vice-county records, **?1**st British records

Melilotus indicus (Small Melilot): Caird Avenue, New Milton, SZ251947; 30 Sep 2007; MWR. 3 plants, waste ground by Tesco, SZ2516 9471. **1**st **for SZ29**. Havant Southmoor Lane, SU7005; 28 Jul 2008; JRWH. One or two plants on waste land east of Southmoor Lane and north of Penner Road. **1**st **for SU70**

Moenchia erecta (Upright Chickweed): Alum Chine etc, SZ0790; 02 May 2007; RMW. 1st for SZ09 in VC11 since 1930

Monotropa hypopitys (Yellow Bird's-nest): Coulters Dean NR, SU748194; 18 Jun 2008; DMit. 3 plants under clump of larger beech trees. New site and 1st in tetrad for 20 years

Muscari neglectum (Grape-hyacinth): Pennington Tip Gravel Pit - south side, SZ311931; 17 Mar 2008; PAB. 1st for SZ39

Oenothera cambrica (Small-flowered Evening-primrose): St Catherines Hill, Christchurch, SZ144956; 17 Aug 2008; MR. Open grassy sward in heath on plateau. **New tetrad**

Orobanche hederae (Ivy Broomrape): Havant Town, SU7106; 30 Jun 2008; JRWH. Under shrubs planted around Tesco store car park seen from streamside path. 1st for SU70

Oxalis exilis (Least Yellow-sorrel): Havant Langstone village, SU7105; 18 Apr 2008; JRWH. Single flower on established site with a mass of plants beside footpath junction with Southbrook Road. Havant Warblington cemetery, SU7205; 10 Jul 2008; JRWH. In otherwise bare soil under planted Roses. **1st for SU70 in VC11**

Paris quadrifolia (Herb-paris): Blackhouse Copse, SU608258; 2007; JMill. 15 plants at SU6082 2586. New tetrad. Blackhouse Copse, SU605260; 2007; JMill. 28 plants at SU6053 2601. Blackhouse Copse, SU608260; 2007; JMill. 275 plants at SU6081 2601. New tetrad

Persicaria capitata (Pink-headed Persicaria): Warburton Road Garages, Hightown, Southampton, SU470119; 22 Oct 2008; PAB. At base of wall. **1st for SU41**

Persicaria minor (Small Water-pepper): Longdown North, SU3608; 09 Sep 2007; PAB. New tetrad

Petroselinum segetum (Corn Parsley): Chessel Bay, Southampton, SU4412; 25 Apr 2008; PAB. 10 plants. New tetrad

Physalis peruviana (Cape-gooseberry): Weston Shore - reedbed recreation, SU441098; 22 Sep 2008; PAB. **1**st **for SU40**. A27(T) junction at Broadmarsh, Havant, SU698056; 06 Sep 2007; PAB conf. EJC. **1**st **for SU60**

Picea sitchensis (Sitka Spruce): SE of Ferny Knap Inclosure, New Forest, SU257032; 02 Feb 2008; PAB. Two foot tall tree. **1st for SU20** other than as planted tree.

Pilosella aurantiaca (Fox-and-cubs): Rowlands Castle Staunton Country Park, SU7209; 14 Jul 2008; JRWH. Few plants in Gipsies Plain area. 1st for SU70 in VC11

Pinguicula lusitanica (Pale Butterwort): Longdown North, SU360084; 05 Sep 2007; PAB. New tetrad

Pittosporum tenuifolium (Kohuhu): Mayfield Park, SU448107; 09 Mar 2008; PAB. A 3 foot high tree on western side of Bowling Green. **New vice-county record**

Platanthera bifolia (Lesser Butterfly-orchid): East of Beaulieu Road Station, SU354060; 31 May 2008; PAB. 1st in tetrad since 1960

Polypogon monspeliensis (Annual Beard-grass): Blashford Lakes, SU155084; 17 Jul 2008; MR. Very abundant on scalped gravel by path to Goosander Hide eg at SU1550 0844, some very depauperate. New tetrad

Polystichum tsus-simense (Tsus-sima Holly-fern): The Square, Winchester, SU481293; 04 Oct 2008; FJR. Fred comments: "I have seen it on two walls in London but am aware of no other records for this...yet! The fronds are used by florists and I think it more likely to have originated from spores from a wedding guest's buttonhole than from a garden plant given its proximity to the cathedral. It's still young and is reasonably hardy and somewhat protected from cleaning operations being behind a pair of drainpipes in a small recess...it will be interesting to see how long it survives!" As this and the similar but pricklier-looking *P. rigens* are now also widely offered in garden centres, they may start to turn up elsewhere. **New vice-county record**

Pseudofumaria alba (Pale Corydalis): NW of St Catherine's Hill, Winchester, SU483279; 04 Jun 2007; PAB. By steps up to old railway line. **2nd vice-county record**

Pulmonaria 'Mawson's Blue' (Mawson's Lungwort): North of Beechwood School, SU446134; 02 Apr 2008; PAB. **New vice-county record**

Ranunculus ficaria subsp. bulbilifer (Lesser Celandine): SE of Buriton, SU71P; 30 Apr 2008; DN. 1st for SU71

Rapistrum rugosum (Bastard Cabbage): Havant town centre, SU7106; 05 Jun 2008; JRWH. On bank of Langbrook stream on north side of Solent - plants later cleared in clean-up of stream. Havant Hayling Saltmarsh Lane shore, SU7100; 12 Jun 2008; JRWH. Inside seawall near stream exit flap. First found here last year. **1**st for SU71

Rhynchospora fusca (Brown Beak-sedge): Longdown Inclosure, SU351080; 07 Oct 2008; SJP. Many plants in a wet depression. New tetrad

Rorippa x sterilis (R. microphylla x nasturtium-aquaticum): Botley Wood, SU548101; 24 Jun 2008; JAN, EJC & DEA det. EJC & JAN. SU5488 1010, in ditch by NG access road. Appears to be this. Not setting fruit. Previously recorded by JAN as Rorippa n-a agg. **1st for SU51**

Rudbeckia hirta (Black-eyed-Susan): Beaulieu Motor Museum carpark - west edge, SU382030; 10 Oct 2007; PAB. A few plants in bloom in the dump area. **1**st **for SU30**

Sagina maritima (Sea Pearlwort): Sowley Marsh and Sowley House, SZ3796; 01 Jun 2008; HFG. 1st in tetrad since 1972

Sagina nodosa (Knotted Pearlwort): Cowards Marsh, SZ151949; 17 Aug 2008; MR. Locally frequent, short turf either side of main track, SZ1514 9498. 1st in tetrad since 1965. Ocknell Plain, SU237125; Aug 2008; CC. Locally abundant. New tetrad

Salicornia europaea (Common Glasswort): Calshot, SU4802; 07 Sep 2008; MR & WBS. Occasional, middle levels of saltmarsh. New tetrad

Salicornia fragilis (Yellow Glasswort): Calshot, SU4802; 07 Sep 2008; MR & WBS. Locally frequent, middle levels of saltmarsh. **New tetrad**

Salix repens (Creeping Willow): Gipsies Plain, Staunton Country Park, SU722096; 18 Oct 2008; JAN & DRA. On grassy track, near ditch. Freq in area 50-70cm x 5metres. **1**st **for SU70** since 1960s

Salix x *multinervis* (S. *aurita* x *cinerea*): Fox Hill, Stoney Cross, SU256111; 08 Oct 2008; MR. Single convincing bush on E side of valley bottom carr, but other *S. cinerea* bushes on W side with some indications of introgression. **1**st **for SU31**

Salix x *sericans* (*S. caprea* x *viminalis*): Blashford Lakes, SU155084; 17 Jul 2008; MR. At SU1555 0841, probably introduced. 1st for SU10

Salvia viridis (Annual Clary): Beech Avenue, Bitterne, SU445133; 29 May 2007; PAB. Under a fence. **1st for SU41**

Sambucus canadensis (American Elder): Western side of Bishopstoke Recreation Ground, SU461198; 07 Sep 2007; PAB. Upper Northam Close, Hedge End, SU480126; 15 Aug 2008; PAB. **1**st and **2**nd vice-county records

Sarcocornia perennis (Perennial Glasswort): Sowley Marsh and Sowley House, SZ3796; 01 Jun 2008; HFG. New tetrad

Saxifraga tridactylites (Rue-leaved Saxifrage): Havant Town, SU7106; 19 Mar 2008; JRWH. Around East Pallant car park - number of plants reduced from previous years by renovation of old wall and pavement weed-killing. Havant Town, SU7206; 28 Apr 2008; JRWH. Up to 100 plants in driveway paving of my home in Beechworth Road. 1st for SU70

Sedum rupestre (Reflexed Stonecrop): Droxford Church, SU607181; 07 Feb 2007; PAB. On wall on south side of churchyard - not in bloom. **1**st for SU61

Senecio cineraria (Silver Ragwort): Cobbett Road, Bitterne Park, SU442136; 28 Apr 2008; PAB. 3 plants. 1st for SU41

Setaria viridis (Green Bristle-grass): nr Cat and Fiddle, Hinton Admiral, SZ203952; 14 Sep 2007; DL. Field W of garage W of Cat and Fiddle N of Hinton Admiral station. Lyme Crescent, Highcliffe, SZ208935; 23 Oct 2007; DL. Disturbed ground. 1st for SZ29. Warblington Cemetery, SU728053; 21 Aug 2007; BF. W side of cemetery. 1st for SU70. Oxleys Copse, Heberdens Farm, SU735138; 02 Oct 2007; JAN & DRA. At SU7353 1381. On arable margin in sown 'game-crop' area. 1st for SU71

Sisymbrium orientale (Eastern Rocket): Anderwood Drive, Sway, SZ279987; 28 Apr 2007; VS. 1 plant on grass verge following disturbance, SZ2793 9878. **1**st for SZ29 since 1960s

Solanum laciniatum (Kangaroo-apple): St Marks Road, Alverstoke, SZ604984; 23 Aug 2008; JAN. At least two rosettes in gutter (Crescent Road). 1st for SZ69

Sorbus croceocarpa (Orange Whitebeam): Dibden Inclosure, SU406055; 17 Sep 2008; MR. Several trees planted in S borders of inclosure, 2 saplings

Stachys byzantina (Lamb's-ear): Warsash Common - Compartment D, SU501060; 22 Apr 2008; PAB. By end of Dibles Road West. **1**st for SU50

Stachys x *ambigua* (Hybrid Woundwort, *S. palustris* x *sylvatica*): Coxford Copse, Shirley, SU397153; 23 Jul 2008; PAB. 10 plants. **1st for SU31**

Tellima grandiflora (Fringecups): Boscombe Chine, SZ108914; 17 May 2007; PAB. **1**st for SZ19

Trifolium subterraneum (Subterranean Clover): Nichol Road, Hiltingbury, SU435224; 19 Apr 2007; MR. In W verge of Nichol Road, several large patches S of Heathfield Road jctn, persisting 2008. **New tetrad**

Trifolium suffocatum (Suffocated Clover): Pennington Marshes, SZ319924; 17 May 2008; JAN. Noted along main track, SZ 3198 9241. May be frequent. With *T. ornithopodioides*. **New tetrad**

Tristagma uniflorum (Spring Starflower): Pennington Tip Gravel Pit - south side, SZ311931; 17 Mar 2008; PAB. **1st for SZ39**.

Verbascum densiflorum (Dense-flowered Mullein): N of Stanpit recreation ground, SZ170926; 24 Aug 2008; DL. Rough ground N of recreation ground. **1**st **for SZ19**

Verbena bonariensis (Argentinian Vervain): Broom Way crash gate No 4, SU570020; 02 Oct 2008; DRA. W. side of Broom Way, verge to N. of access road. **1**st **for SU50**

Verbena rigida (Slender Vervain): East Cliff, Bournemouth – east, SZ110911; 17 May 2007; PAB. 20 plants. **1**st for SZ19

Vinca difformis (Intermediate Periwinkle): Chapel Street Cut, Southampton, SU426115; 17 Apr 2008; PAB. Spreading from former garden. **1**st **for SU41**

Vulpia fasciculata (Dune Fescue): Hengistbury Head, SZ1790; 30 Jun 2007; DWo & MWo. Possible new tetrad. Hurst Castle Beach, SZ3189; 01 Jul 2007; DWo & MWo. Possible new tetrad and certainly 1st at site since 1960

VC12 Records compiled by Tony Mundell

Once again here is a set of my personal selections from the records received recently. As usual I have omitted the 'SU' to save space, and I remind you that inclusion of a record does not imply that there is public access as some of these records were obtained during surveys at the owner's invitation.

Many of you will know of the recent explosive expansion of *Bassia scoparia* (Summer-cypress) along the central reservations of many motorways in Britain. This is now the dominant plant along most of the M3 through Hampshire and Surrey, colouring the central reservation for many miles with its characteristic reddish hue in autumn and pale apple-green in summer. Luckily (with a few exceptions) it seems unenthusiastic about leaving central reservations,

though it is also spreading along the middle of dual carriageway roads like the A303. A few years ago Martin Rand showed me some plants of another alien, *Dittrichia graveolens* (Stinking Fleabane) close to the M27 near Cadnam. As it seemed to like the motorway habitat in VC11, he predicted it would also spread into VC12, and this year whilst driving along the M3 he noticed it in several places north of Winchester.

Agrostis curtisii (Bristle Bent) Scattered patches in various places within the following 100m squares at Caesar's Camp, Aldershot, 836505, 837504, 835502 and 836504, Tony Mundell & HFG, 3 Aug 2008.

Anthemis cotula (Stinking Chamomile) Two plants on edge of perimeter track at Black Wood SU5381 4316, Andy Cross June 2008.

Arctium lappa (Greater Burdock) Hazeley Heath, total of 15 plants on both sides of track at 7596 5779, plus two beside track at 7591 5783 and one beside track at 7609 5772, all with A. minus also present, Tony Mundell 10 Aug 2008.

Bromus commutatus (Meadow Brome) Locally plentiful at Ashley Warren Farm 4960 5492, Phil Wilson, John Moon & Tony Mundell 22 Aug 2008.

Bromus secalinus (Rye Brome) About a dozen plants in the corner of a wheat field close to the road viewable from a gap in the hedgerow near Easton at c.SU508305, Geoff Farwell 13 Jul 2008.

Bunias orientalis (Warty-cabbage) One large multi-stemmed plant at Crondall 7908 4831, beside footpath at concrete yard with farm sheds, Tony Mundell 24 Jul 2008.

Campanula rapunculoides (Creeping Bellflower) About 4 plants beside path entering Isle of Wight Wood, Porton Down 248377, Nick Montegriffo 20 Jul 2008.

Carex echinata (Star Sedge) On bank of reservoir at Bourley 8287 5031, Tony Mundell & HFG, 3 Aug 2008. *Carex laevigata* (Smooth-stalked Sedge) On bank of reservoir at Bourley 8287 5031 and nearby at 8295 5025, Tony Mundell & HFG, 3 Aug 2008.

Centaurium pulchellum (Lesser Centaury) At least 100 plants at eastern end of disused airstrip at Longmoor c.808314, Nick Montegriffo 23 Jul 2008.

Chaenorhinum minus (Small Toadflax) Ashley Warren Farm 4954 5542, 4959 5528, 4958 5527, 4958 5526, 4964 5493, 4962 5530, Phil Wilson, John Moon & Tony Mundell 22 Aug 2008. Slightly disturbed soil in northern part of clearing in Black Wood, 5381 4318, Andy Cross June 2008.

Chamaemelum nobile (Chamomile) Several patches in area c.6m x 2m, Fleet cricket ground 8043 5390, Chris Hall 21 May 2008. Last recorded here in 1944.

Coeloglossum viride (Frog Orchid) 81 spikes on west slope of Ladle Hill along a strip about 10m wide from 4772 5692 to 4778 5700, Peter Billinghurst with HWT field meeting 19 Jul 2008.

Crassula tillaea (Mossy Stonecrop) Eelmoor Plain, many plants, e.g. c.180 at 8486 5247; hundreds in c.4m x 3m at 8476 5224; hundreds more on east side 8477 5222; hundreds adjacent to A323, 8492 5255; all when just a small area of the grassland was sampled, Chris Hall 19 May 2008. Claycart Hill, patches at 8525 5254, 600+ plants; very locally abundant by concrete at 8524 5248, c.1,500 plants, Chris Hall 19 May 2008.

Cuscuta epithymum (Dodder) Young growth on young *Ulex minor* (burned 2005) on a bank, Hazeley Heath south, at least five patches 7654 5804, Chris Hall 21 May 2008.

Cyperus longus (Galingale) In pond north of Stoke 4092 5303, but probably planted, Peter Billinghurst 17 Aug 2008. *Dactylorhiza incarnata subsp. pulchella* (Early Marsh Orchid) Eelmoor Marsh, south end, in mire near field hut,

8394 5295 to 8393 5297, 78 spikes, Chris Hall 27 May 2008. Ancell's Meadows, two spikes (sward closing) about 8m apart at 8244 5582, Chris Hall 2 Jun 2008.

Dittrichia graveolens (Stinking Fleabane) In verge on northbound carriageway of M3, nr Abbots Worthy 5033, and in verge south of the summit near Shroner Wood 5134, also on southbound carriageway south of Service area, 5235, all Martin Rand 12 Oct 2008.

Dryopteris x deweveri (*D. dilatata x carthusiana*) Bourley Bottom 8280 5022, where pointed out by Steven Ettlinger on HFG/SBS meeting 3 Aug 2008.

Eleocharis acicularis (Needle Spike-rush) Several patches on bare sand at edge of water at Sandy Bay, Fleet Pond 824549, Tony Mundell 27 Aug 2008.

Epipactis phyllanthes (Green-flowered Helleborine) One plant with three spikes beside track to canal east of Norris Bridge 8343 5352 (where I first saw it 30 years ago) and 2 more beside canal towpath 8345 5347, Tony Mundell 26 Jul 2008.

Epipactis purpurata (Violet Helleborine) This seems to have had a good year, so in addition to several records for 2008 listed in the previous Flora News I also had the following: Noar Hill 7452 3186, 6 spikes just inside reserve fence and 4 just outside, still in bud, Tony Mundell 5 Jul 2008. Total of 22 spikes on 6 plants at Beacon Hill Copse, Ewshot,

4 of those plants at 8230 5065 and another 2 at 8229 5059 beside a fallen tree, all Tony Mundell with HFG/SBS meeting 3 Aug 2008. One plant with 4 spikes at College Lane, Ellisfield 6425 4519, Sarah Warriss 17 Aug 2008, conf. Tony Mundell 23 Aug 2008, who found 20 spikes scattered on both sides of College Lane at 6425 4519, 6424 4516, 6424 4515, 6423 4514 and 6428 4525. First noticed in Alton Lane, Four Marks, by a Mrs Adams and reported to HWT by Ann Storey on 21 Aug 2008, conf. Tony Mundell 23 Aug 2008 who found total of 36 spikes at various places on both sides of Alton Road at 6787 3485, 6783 3480, 6744 3443, 6781 3476 and best at 6727 3425 just outside entrance to Two Acres Nursery including 28 exceptionally robust spikes. On shaded verge at 6319 4346by by entrance to Moundsmere Estate, Cressida Wheelwright 10 Sep 2008.

Equisetum hyemale (Dutch Rush) Still hanging on at the only known VC12 population, extremely close to the Surrey border. The northern end is near Dippenhall at 80723 45279, and it extends sporadically down the little stream on its banks and on adjacent bare damp calcareous clay under Hazel for about 30m, but very sparsely, with few aggregations of more than a couple of stems, Fred Rumsey 23 Aug 2008.

Euphorbia exigua (Dwarf Spurge) 10-20 plants in northern part of the clearing in Black Wood 5381 4318 & 5384 4316, Andy Cross June 2008.

Filago vulgaris (Common Cudweed) Locally plentiful just on the Hants side of the border with Surrey at Beacon Hill 8258 4958, 8264 4956 etc, Tony Mundell 28 Jul 2008. Still by A323 at Eelmoor Plain, very locally numerous through c.9m x 4m at 8492 5255, 800+ plants, Chris Hall 19 May 2008.

Galeopsis angustifolia (Red Hemp-nettle) Ashley Warren Farm, single flowering plant with three vegetative plants in field at 4961 5529, plus another vegetative plant at 4959 5528, Phil Wilson, John Moon & Tony Mundell 22 Aug 2008. *Galeopsis tetrahit* (Common Hemp-nettle) White variety along path at Newtown Common from 4802 6333 to 4800 6332, Peter Billinghurst 7 Aug 2008.

Galium verum cf. subsp. ruthenicum ('Russian Lady's Bedstraw') Very different in 'jizz' from our native Lady's Bedstraw, this was first noticed by Chris Hall around the car park at Norris Bridge near Fleet. On 26 Jul 2008 Tony Mundell counted 50 strictly erect robust spikes on very thick stems, several exceeding 1.5m tall, mostly at 8329 5363 but with more at 8331 5364, 8333 5365 and 8330 5363. Tony collected a specimen that was determined by Eric Clement. This car park was constructed about 5 years ago using imported soil. Tony returned in later to see if seed was being set, but all the plants had been mown off.

Genista anglica (Petty Whin) Pyestock Heath (north), seven large shrubs to west of Gelvert Stream 8279 5409; Pyestock Heath (south), five large leggy shrubs in rank *Calluna/Molinia/Ulex minor* heathland to east of Gelvert Stream 8296 5379, 8296 5377, 8295 5379, 8293 5377, both Chris Hall 12 May 2008. West Minley Meadow, group of seven rather leggy, sprawling shrubs and five others nearby 8121 5770, Chris Hall 13 May 2008. Foxlease Meadows, apparently rare and much decreased; the three shrubs located were all hard browsed with few flowers, 8331 5683 a small shrub, 8315 5685 another small shrub, 8313 5683 a larger leggy shrub with much browsing damage, Chris Hall 13 May 2008. The current grazing regime at Foxlease is possibly rather harsh. Some locations where *Genista* grew 25 years ago have become birch woodland. Hazeley Heath, also greatly decreased: South heath, 7635 5803 (2 shrubs), 7634 5806, 7634 5808, 7634 5809, all sprawling senescent shrubs in very rank heath dominated by large *Ulex minor* or *Molinia*; also in more open mire to north where burned in 2005, small shrubs at 7627 5811 (3), 7628 5811 (2), 7627 5811, 7626 5812 and 7626 5811; North Heath, one large sprawling shrub and one smaller close by, 7540 5824, all Chris Hall 21 May 2008.

Genista tinctoria (Dyer's Greenweed) 28 plants on eastern verge of the old A34 road at Litchfield 4589 5312, Peter Billinghurst 19 Jul 2008, declining for lack of management.

Geranium columbinum (Long stalked Crane's-bill) A few plants at Ashley Warren Farm 4954 5542, Phil Wilson, John Moon & Tony Mundell 22 Aug 2008.

Geranium pratense (Meadow Crane's-bill) Three plants in Candover Copse 569409, Geoff Farwell 15 Jun 2008. *Geranium rotundifolium* (Round-leaved Crane's-bill) Several plants beside pavement of Sandy Lane 8139 5173, Tony Mundell 6 Aug 2008.

Hieracium diaphanum (a Hawkweed) 19 plants on edges of steep eroded gully at Caesar's Camp 8375 5025 only a few metres down from the scarp summit, Tony Mundell 4 Aug 2008.

Hieracium scotostictum (a Hawkweed) In two places on roadside of Easton Lane, Winchester 491300 and 493301, David Allen 3 Oct 2008, det. David McCosh. Voucher in BM. Comes into gardens as a nursery weed but in these sites behaving as an ordinary ruderal.

Hippuris vulgaris (Mare's-tail) Canal at Pondtail Heath, a patch 3m long, 8274 5355, Chris Hall 12 May 2008. *Hottonia palustris* (Water Violet) Foxlease Meadows, small patch in ditch on south side of eastern mire, 8296 5684, Chris Hall 13 May 2008.

Hyoscyamus niger (Henbane) In maize strip on arable margin N of Nether Wallop 305374, Martin Rand & Barry Goater 24 Oct 2008.

Hypericum elodes (Marsh St John's-wort) Bourley Bottom Reservoirs 8304 5053, 8300 5050, 8303 5051 and 8291 5041, Tony Mundell 28 Jul 2008. Foxlease Meadows, small patch in a ditch, 8313 5684, Chris Hall 13 May 2008. *Illecebrum verticillatum* (Coral Necklace) Dominant over a four square metre hollow at the eastern end of the disused airstrip at Longmoor Camp c.808314, Nick Montegriffo 23 Jul 2008.

Isolepis setacea (Bristle Club-rush) Several patches beside water channel below Caesar's Camp 8371 5034, Tony Mundell 28 Jul 2008. On reservoir bank at Bourley Bottom 8287 5031, Tony Mundell & HFG, 3 Aug 2008.

Jasione montana (Sheep's-bit) Hawley Meadows on boundary with railway, declined due to spread of bramble but surviving close to fence where grazing is maintaining an open sward, 8581 5914 to 8593 5895, 135 plants, Chris Hall 11 May 2008.

Juncus effusus var subglomeratus This variety has the completely smooth stems (when fresh) of ordinary Soft Rush but has a very compact fruiting head. It is almost certainly common, but is very under-recorded. All I have so far are the following: Longmoor Inclosure 788298, Nick Montegriffo 21 Jun 2006. Beacon Hill 8221 4958, Tony Mundell & HFG, 3 Aug 2008. Hound Green 730591, Tony Mundell 7 Aug 2008.

Juncus x kern-reichgeltii This hybrid is the 'opposite' of the above taxon, with the strongly ridged stems of Compact Rush but a branching inflorescence. Pointed out by Debbie Allen beside the track at Beacon Hill 8209 4974 on the HFG field trip on 3 Aug 2008. This is only the second record for Hants.

Juncus squarrosus (Heath Rush) Has become quite plentiful on areas cleared of woodland in 2001 NW of Long Valley, e.g. 75 plants at 8323 5226, Chris Hall 17 Apr 2008.

Kickxia elatine (Sharp-leaved Fluellen) Just one plant at Ashley Warren Farm 4962 5510, Phil Wilson, John Moon & Tony Mundell 22 Aug 2008. In margins of maize strip N of Nether Wallop 305374, Martin Rand & Barry Goater 24 Oct 2008.

Kickxia spuria (Round-leaved Fluellen) In margins of maize strip N of Nether Wallop 305374, Martin Rand & Barry Goater 24 Oct 2008.

Lamium hybridum (Cut-leaved Dead-nettle) 3 plants in Pine Grove, Church Crookham, where the turf is broken, 8184 5244, Chris Hall 24 Feb 2008, increased to five plants 23 March.

Lathyrus linifolius (Bitter-vetch) Several plants beside reservoir at Bourley Bottom 8289 5028, Tony Mundell & HFG, 3 Aug 2008.

Legousia hybrida (Venus's Looking-glass) 120+ plants along eastern headland of large field of oats east of Woodmancott 575425 to 577427, Geoff Farwell 15 Jun 2008.

Lilium martagon (Martagon Lily) A few now in seed, under trees between Garthowen Garden Centre car park and a house in Four Marks, 675345, Mrs A Storey 24 Aug 2008. Tony Mundell knew this site back in 1973 when he photographed the lilies in woodland. There were then a few dozen spikes. That wood and nearly all of the lilies were destroyed later in 1973 in order to build the house mentioned and to relocate the Garden Centre to its current position. *Littorella uniflora* (Shoreweed) Abundant in the largest reservoir at Bourley Bottom 830506, Tony Mundell 28 Jul 2008, and HFG field trip 3 Aug 2008.

Lolium x boucheanum (L. perenne x multiflorum) Grassy arable margin E of Blackstake Hill, Martin Rand & Barry Goater 24 Oct 2008.

Lysichiton americanus (American Skunk-cabbage) Many plants at Newtown Common 4715 6250 and 2 outliers at 4705 6251, Peter Billinghurst 12 Aug 2008. Under carr in silted drain on west side of West Minley Meadows, 15 large plants with smaller plants around them, 8121 5793, Chris Hall 13 May 2008.

Moenchia erecta (Upright Chickweed) Road verge at Ively, Cody Technology Park, 80+ plants at 8503 5436, Chris Hall 26 Apr 2008. Verge of Alisons Road and on bank by playing field, Aldershot, mostly in seed, 8623 5209, 8622 5211, Chris Hall 19 May 2008. Verge of A325 by Queens Parade, c.120 plants in c.1m x 3m on bank, 8658 5293, margin of Queens Parade in open acidic grassland, 52 plants, 8662 5230.

Monotropa hypopitys subsp. hypopitys (Yellow Bird's-nest) Micheldever Spoil Heaps 5205 4438 in two small clumps of 3 and 5 spikes, 2m apart, Fred Rumsey & Helena Crouch. (This confirmed Tony Mundell's observation, on 5 Jun 2008, supported by a floret specimen, that this was the only definite site in VC12 for this subspecies. All others checked have been *subsp. hypophegea*. Unfortunately this particular site was listed in error under *subsp. hypophegea* in Flora News Autumn 2008!!).

Myosotis ramosissima (Early Forget-me-not) On dry ridge, Hazeley Heath, c.600 plants in flower, 7628 5800, Chris Hall 23 Apr 2008. In short sward on Hazeley Heath plateau, 14 plants at 7605 5766, Chris Hall 1 May 2008. Road verge at Ively, beside Y60 Building, Cody Technology Park, 15 plants at 8500 5428, Chris Hall 26 Apr 2008.

Myriophyllum alterniflorum (Alternate Water-milfoil) In the smaller reservoir at Bourley Bottom 8290 5037, Tony Mundell 28 Jul 2008.

Narthecium ossifragum (Bog Asphodel) Very small patch beside water channel at Caesar's Camp 8371 5034, also in bog below Caesar's Camp 8367 5032, both Tony Mundell 28 Jul 2008.

Oreopteris limbosperma (Lemon-scented Fern) Gelvert Stream at Pyestock Heath, three at 8272 5430, Chris Hall 12 May 2008, much decreased along this stream since 1980's. Ditch at south end of Eelmoor Marsh, four ferns (recovered following ditch clearance last winter) 8365 5316, Chris Hall 29 May 2008.

Orchis morio = *Anacamptis morio* (Green-winged Orchid) One spike on verge of Commer Track, near south of Eelmoor Marsh 8407 5300, Betty Hansell 12 May 2008, conf. Chris Hall 14 May 2008. Two spikes at Eelmoor Marsh, Laffan Meadow near Whirlwind Track 8472 5350, Chris Hall 14 May 2008.

Osmunda regalis (Royal Fern) Hazeley Heath (central) in damp heath under pines, five crowns plus one dead 7555 5805 and two others nearby at 7556 5807, Chris Hall 21 May 2008.

Oxalis exilis (Least Yellow-sorrel) Crondall 7931 4841 on roadside bank, Tony Mundell 24 Jul 2008. Patch a couple of metres across beside track at Bourley Bottom 8252 5056, Tony Mundell & HFG, 3 Aug 2008. Patch on road verge at Alton Lane Four Marks 6773 3466, Tony Mundell 23 Aug 2008.

Papaver hybridum (Rough Poppy) In block of *Panicum miliaceum* and *Sorghum bicolor* planted for game cover to N of lane, Berry Court Farm 299356, also scattered along edge of grassy arable marginal strip E of Blackstake Hill 335375, both Martin Rand & Barry Goater 24 Oct 2008.

Parentucellia viscosa (Yellow Bartsia) At least 300 plants at eastern end of Longmoor Camp disused airstrip c.808314, some up to 30cm high, Nick Montegriffo 23 Jul 2008.

Platanthera chlorantha (Greater Butterfly Orchid) 6 spikes in north-eastern area of the clearing in Black Wood at 5391 4309, Andy Cross, June 2008.

Poa chaixii (Broad-leaved Meadow-grass) Cranes Farm, Sherborne St John 620558, Nick Montegriffo 24 Jul 2008. *Potentilla anglica* (Trailing Tormentil) Beacon Hill 8213 4989, setting seed so not *P. x mixta*, and has a rather more delicate jizz than that hybrid, Tony Mundell & HFG, 3 Aug 2008.

Potentilla x mixta Large patch at 8220 4959, Tony Mundell & HFG, 3 Aug 2008.

Pyrola minor (Common Wintergreen) Beacon Hill 8266 4960, 40 rosettes in all, 32 of them with only one in flower on upper side of ditch, below a perforated metal wall, plus 8 more rosettes, not flowering, on adjacent lower ditch side 2m away, Tony Mundell 28 Jul 2008. Still in pinewood at Eelmoor Plain, c.500 plants in irregular area c.4m x 4m, 8473 5227, decreased, small outliers nearby with four at 8471 5227, nine at 8470 5227, also c.75 under oak on east side of track 8472 5225, all Chris Hall 19 May 2008.

Ranunculus auricomus (Goldilocks Buttercup) Bank beside Arrow Lane on west side of Hazeley Heath, four plants 7590 5731, Chris Hall 1 May 2008.

Rorippa palustris (Marsh Yellow-cress) In wet patch in track on Hazeley Heath 7599 5778, Tony Mundell 10 Aug 2008.

Rosa arvensis ♀ *x canina* ♂ Noar Hill, Quarry Pit 7388 3195, Tony Mundell 23 Aug 2008, specimen conf. Roger Maskew with parents as shown.

Rosa rubiginosa (Sweet-briar) Hazeley Heath, one bush beside track at 7591 5783, Tony Mundell 14 Aug 2008. *Rosa x andegavensis* Hazeley Heath 7602 5758, single bush in laybye beside road, Tony Mundell 10 Aug 2008. Large bush hanging over edge of Quarry Pit, Noar Hill 7389 3194, Tony Mundell 23 Aug 2008, specimen conf. (as the undirectional hybrid) Roger Maskew.

Ruscus aculeatus (Butcher's-broom) On south boundary bank of Hazeley Heath Common, a dense clump 3m long, 7632 5736, Chris Hall 1 May 2008.

Sagina subulata (Heath Pearlwort) Still present at fork in track at Beacon Hill 8214 4997, where found originally by Chris Hall, identity conf. Martin Rand et al on HFG field meeting 3 Aug 2008.

Scandix pecten-veneris (Shepherd's-needle) Nether Wallop 2992 3589, very abundant over stretch of c.70m in and around tractor tracks in arable to west of public footpath, Martin Rand and Barry Goater 24 Oct 2008.

Scirpus sylvaticus (Wood Club-rush) Newtown 4848 6352, Peter Billinghurst 7 Aug 2008.

Scutellaria minor (Lesser Skullcap) Beside ditch at Bourley Bottom 8271 5020, Tony Mundell 28 July 2008. On bank of reservoir, Bourley Bottom 8287 5031, Tony Mundell & HFG, 3 Aug 2008.

Solidago virgaurea (Goldenrod) Caesar's Camp 8375 5025 on crest of hill scarp, Tony Mundell & HFG, 3 Aug 2008. **Sorbaria sorbifolia** (Sorbaria) Bourley Bottom 8254 5052, shrub only 1.5m high, evidently a garden discard but a long way from houses, Tony Mundell & HFG, 3 Aug 2008.

Stellaria pallida (Lesser Chickweed) Verge of A325, Farnborough, locally frequent 8690 5379 to 8691 5385, also a patch at 8693 5391, very locally abundant at 8695 5398, all Chris Hall 1 Apr 2008. In grass near Farnborough

Community Centre 8687 5516, very locally frequent, Chris Hall 1 Apr 2008. Bank of Cove Brook covering c.5m x 2m, North Eelmoor, Chris Hall 4 Apr 2008. Probably this at Eelmoor Plain, west side of driver circuit, scattered along 8486 5246 to 8487 5251, all plants old and yellowed, Chris Hall 19 May 2008.

Teesdalia nudicaulis (Shepherd's Cress) Two large colonies in St John's Churchyard, Cove: dense group of c.300 plants c.90cm x 30cm and sparsely through grass nearby 8504 5606; another dense group of c.700 on grave and c.200 on adjacent grave, 8500 5608, Chris Hall 11 May 2008. Not refound at Hawley Church (where present in 1991), where the current mowing regime favours a dense grass sward; also not refound at Hawley Meadows, where the habitat has become overgrown by bramble and scrub; both checked Chris Hall 11 May 2008.

Trifolium ornithopodioides (Bird's-foot Clover) Hazeley Heath plateau, margins of the main track in four places: 120+ plants on east side in c.3m x 1m, 7645 5756; very locally plentiful along c.4m of trackside at 7612 5771; at track junction around dried up puddle, 150+ plants, 7608 5772; in broken turf on slope beside track, 31 plants, 7607 5774; all Chris Hall 21 May 2008.

Trifolium striatum (Knotted Clover) Grassy margin of the main track that crosses Hazeley Heath plateau, very locally plentiful along two metres 7612 5771; also at least 23 plants on grassy margin of minor path at south end of Hazeley Heath 7641 5754, Chris Hall 21 May 2008.

Trifolium subterraneum (Subterranean Clover) Very locally abundant in mown turf on new area at west side of St John's Churchyard, Cove (former West Heath Common), nine patches in an area c.8m x 6m, 8498 5613, Chris Hall 11 May 2008. Claycart Hill, increasing, patches extend irregularly c.4m x 3m, 8524 5245, also two plants well to NW, Chris Hall 19 May 2008. Army sports fields, Aldershot, on disused track, still plentiful at west end where 21 patches along c.12m, 8568 5171 to 8569 5170, Chris Hall 19 May 2008.

Valeriana dioica (Marsh Valerian) Bourley Bottom, beside ditch at 8272 5019, Tony Mundell & HFG, 3 Aug 2008. Very plentiful along south boundary of West Minley Meadow, three large patches at 8118 5773 to 8119 5770, Chris Hall 19 May 2008.

Verbascum densiflorum (Dense-flowered Mullein) Large colony east of Norris Bridge 8343 5361 to 8342 5357, the tallest measured 10ft high. The clavate (not capitate) stigma helps to distinguish it from V. thapsus, Tony Mundell 26 Jul 2008.

Veronica polita (Grey Field-speedwell) Newtown Common 4685 6285, Peter Billinghurst 12 Aug 2008. St Mary Bourne, Doiley Bottom 4093 5373 and 4078 5385, Peter Billinghurst 22 Aug 2008.

Veronica scutellata var. scutellata (Marsh Speedwell) Bourley Bottom along reservoir edge e.g. at 8291 5041, 8303 5051 and 8300 5050, Tony Mundell 28 Jul 2008.

Wahlenbergia hederacea (Ivy-leaved Bellflower) Bourley Bottom, one tiny young plant beside a ditch at 82716 50207, possibly the last survivor of the extensive colony that existed 30 years ago in many ditches in this area whilst the ditches were managed, Tony Mundell 28 Jul 2008. Other former sites there were searched unsuccessfully for it that day.

Compiled 5 Dec 2008

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